

Annual IMPACT Report

FISCAL
YEAR
2025

(AUGUST 2024- JULY 2025)



ASJ
USA
FOR A MORE JUST SOCIETY

ASSOCIATION FOR A MORE
JUST SOCIETY - U.S.
(ASJ-US)

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ASJ-US ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

Fiscal Year 2025 (AUG 2024-JUL 2025)

After closing our fiscal year (August 2024 - July 2025), we are reflecting on our collective impact toward building a more just society. Join us in looking back on a year of working for peace and justice in Honduras and inspiring communities across the world to do the same. View this report online at:

asj-us.org/AIR2025

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As I approach the start of my third year in the role of Executive Director at ASJ-US, I am filled with gratitude for what I’ve seen, heard, and experienced during my time here. I’m grateful for the dedicated Hondurans that I’m now lucky to call my friends, courageously working day in and day out for a more just society.

I’m grateful for the tangible success that I’ve had a front row seat to witness—from more days of school for millions of Honduran school kids to more prescription medications for patients who need them to a swelling tide of Hondurans walking in the streets just last month, praying for peace and democracy.

And I’m grateful for you, if you have journeyed with us this past year on the road toward justice.

In the report that follows, you’ll find stories from that journey. Stories of courage, of transformation, of hope restored and of justice secured.

As you read these stories, it’s my hope that you too will feel grateful. Grateful for a God faithful to his promises to usher in his kingdom of justice and peace on earth, and grateful for a community like ASJ dedicated to partnering with him as he does.

Onward,

Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap
Executive Director, ASJ-US



OUR MISSION AND VALUES

OUR MISSION

We strive to be brave Christians, dedicated to doing justice in Honduras and to inspiring others around the world to seek justice in their own contexts.



Collaborate with, learn from, and advocate alongside our partner organization ASJ-Honduras to promote peace, justice, and the transformation of society and government in Honduras.



Share our experience in Honduras with communities of justice seekers in order to learn together and advance best practices in justice work worldwide.



Challenge and inspire Christians to live out the Biblical call to do justice and to effect change in their own communities.

OUR VALUES

ACOMPAÑAMOS:

We walk alongside our partners, community members, and supporters and strive to create systems where power is shared.

WE CHAMPION JUSTICE

We are justice seekers and strive to create just systems. We treat all people in a way that honors their God-given dignity.



WE CHOOSE HOPE

We are motivated by a vision of what the world could be and we know that this pursuit requires hard work, determination, and persistence.



WE ACT WITH COURAGE

We strive to be courageous in our work and in our conversations even when it's hard, scary, or uncomfortable. We ask questions, speak truth to power, and choose justice even when there are consequences.



WE ENCOURAGE LEARNING & CURIOSITY

We are curious about people's stories. We are people centered and value intentional and authentic relationships that are invitational, rooted in trust, and built on belonging.



VALUES IN ACTION:

One value we leaned into this year was We Choose Hope. **Choosing hope requires hard work, determination, and persistence.** "Choose" implies continual action. During the primary elections in Honduras, we worked hard to observe and chart any irregularities. When we observed corruption, we did not lose hope. Although we felt disappointed, we came back to the office on Monday after staying out almost all night observing the election. We sang worship songs of hope and renewal, and we redoubled our efforts to improve our work against irregularities before the upcoming presidential election this November 2025. Hondurans want and deserve authorities who work for peace and demonstrate transparency. **And, together with them, we choose to hope that this is possible.**

OUR FOCUS AREAS

EDUCATION

We provide technical support and accountability to government systems so that all Hondurans have access to basic services like education.



Collating data from over 20,000 volunteer survey responders, we were able to track the amount of days of school and school lunch that children receive. Out of the required 200 days of school, children received 182 days in 2024. We worked diligently with the Minister of Education to provide school lunches, a primary indicator of increased enrollment and school attendance. In 2024, Honduran schools provided lunches for 155 of the 182 days children attended school.

HEALTH

We work to call out corruption in the health sector and to create institutional change through government auditing and community participation.

In FY'25 ASJ highlighted how the inefficiency in the budget management of the Ministry of Health takes its toll on patients and staff, denouncing the lack of access to medicines in public hospitals and the lack of progress in addressing the surgical backlog that affects thousands of Hondurans whose only option for care is the public health system.



OUR WORK FOR JUSTICE

OUR METHODOLOGY

Through both research and advocacy on cases of corruption, we are working to build transparent systems that serve the Honduran people. Over the past 25 years, we have used this methodology. It is not always linear, but it has helped us stay true to our mission. We know justice work is difficult, but not too difficult. We have seen change happen before, and we know we will see change happen again.

01

RESEARCH

We identify what's broken and why. Then, we begin to develop solutions.

02

COLLABORATE

We build coalitions and alliances which help us to refine solutions.

04

ADVOCATE

We monitor government responsiveness while increasing awareness and continuing advocacy.

03

PRESSURE

We put out communication such as press conferences and earned media, and we advocate with decision makers.

SECURITY

We make peace possible at both the community and national level by walking alongside victims of violence and advocating for national reforms.



ASJ was asked to help investigate and bring to justice the director of an orphanage on the north coast of Honduras. Oscar Serrano, director of Heart to Heart Ministries, has for years been sexually abusing girls who, as soon as they turned 15 years old, would be moved into his home. After months of walking alongside these girls as they shared their heart-rending stories and prodding the Honduran government to move forward, the prosecutor's office put out an arrest warrant against Serrano and is seeking to work with the FBI on resolving this case.

TRANSPARENCY AND DEMOCRACY

We research and report acts of corruption, while pushing for transparency and open access to information.

In an effort to combat corruption and promote transparency within the political sphere, ASJ's youth platform Democracia en Accion (Democracy in Action), pictured below, succeeded in proposing the "Three for Three Law" which requires candidates for elected offices to make 3 public declarations: their assets, their tax returns, and their interests.



EXPANDING OUR SCOPE

The ASJ Justice Institute:

We launched our think tank, the ASJ Justice Institute, a space dedicated to research and analysis of the country's most pressing problems. With the advice of a group of national and international experts, the Justice Institute generates proposals for solutions and knowledge-based applied research. These proposals contribute to improving decision making for those in authority positions in the country. Our research is always evidence-based, people-centered, and hope-powered.

One example of our work through the Justice Institute is *Estado de País* (State of the Country), a platform that provides a trustworthy panorama of what public systems are looking like each year in Honduras. In addition to our four main focus areas (above), *Estado de País* also shows the challenges Honduras faces in eight key areas. Every year, starting in February, ASJ shares what is and what is not going well in Honduran systems. During that time, we hold two press conferences per month to present each of our research areas. We invite the general public, other experts, community stakeholders, and government officials to these presentations. Our proposals encourage those in positions of power to respond and make positive changes in favor of the Hondurans who need it the most.

estadodepais.asjhonduras.com





OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

This year marked our 25th anniversary of working for justice in Honduras. Our commitment to working in partnership with ASJ-Honduras and our global community of supporters remained steadfast and we are proud of our collective impact. Here are some of the highlights:

PROGRAMS

Our focus areas challenge us to seek well-rounded solutions to the justice issues we see affecting Hondurans on a daily basis. Our program work includes fierce advocacy and strong relationships with stakeholders, authorities and within our team.

ASJ staff are cited multiple times a week across TV shows, newspapers and radio. In addition, we raised our voice in **ADVOCACY** through **32 PRESS CONFERENCES** to demand improvement, reform, and justice in the public systems that most affect Hondurans.

Our advocacy work is one of the most important ways that we have achieved impacting and lasting change. Although sometimes it might be dangerous and difficult, we will continue to raise our voice for justice.



We pushed forward the passing of a budget and the signing of an agreement to print **NEW TEXTBOOKS** for over **2 MILLION HONDURAN SCHOOL CHILDREN**.



Schools had not received any new textbooks since 2016! Aside from monitoring days of class and school lunch distribution, we also work for the quality of education that Honduran children deserve.

Our team trained **140 TEACHERS** from **22 DIFFERENT SCHOOLS** to identify and **REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE** against children and adolescents.

Teachers play an important role in the protection of Honduran children. Each of these teachers trained will, in turn, train their colleagues and parents at their schools. **Together, we are building safer spaces for children to learn and grow.**



We equipped **117 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER AUDITORS** to evaluate the quality of care and the availability of supplies and medications in the **PUBLIC HOSPITALS**.



We advocate on national levels to raise awareness of the dire state of public hospitals using information that our community auditors gather. Our advocacy work doesn't only focus on numbers, but it pushes for a human approach where we put faces to those numbers.

Our team provided 396 CHILDREN and adolescents with family psychoeducation sessions, vocational training, and activities to PREVENT PHYSICAL, SEXUAL, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL VIOLENCE.

Through our Strong Communities program, our team provides more than just training in the 2 communities where we permanently operate. In addition to our violence prevention curriculum, children in the Strong Communities program also receive school tutoring, career counseling, and recreational time through our activities.



Our staff and volunteers monitored 22% OF THE POLLING STATIONS during the primary elections in Honduras with 1,255 LOCAL VOLUNTEERS



After voting, Hondurans receive an ink mar on their pinky to show that they have voted. Pictures is a young woman proudly showing that she has exercised her right to vote.

Our team worked hard to monitor the primary elections, which also helped us prepare for the upcoming presidential election in November 2025. Many irregularities were reported by our team during the primaries, mainly about polling stations that did not get their voting material until very late or at all, but also about faulty or incomplete equipment and improper completion of protocol. Despite all of this, Hondurans waited long hours, in some cases past midnight, to exercise their right to vote, showing a fervent and resilient desire to uphold democracy.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is a key part of the work of ASJ-US. Not only because we sent 1.2 million dollars to our partner ASJ-HN last year, but also because we are a growing community of people who are committed to doing justice together.

EVENTS

We hosted 14 fundraising events across the US, gathering almost 1,000 people together to support this important mission of justice. Together we celebrated what God is doing in Honduras. We acknowledged the long game of justice. We renewed our commitments, and we gave generously and collectively.



FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS

Through fundraising campaign themes like “Acompañamos (Walking Together)” “May We Not be Indifferent,” and “Keep Moving Forward,” we leaned into the biblical call to do justice.



In 2024, our Executive Director cast the vision of doubling our financial support for ASJ-Honduras by 2030. This goal included the annual milestone of raising \$200,000 additional dollars for Honduras in fiscal year 2025 over the prior year.

We not only HIT THIS FIRST MILESTONE last fiscal year, but SURPASSED IT!

AWARENESS

To spread the word about the extraordinary work our team is doing in Honduras, we took several actions to increase visibility and awareness.

VISITS TO THE HONDURAS OFFICE

We welcomed **11 GROUPS VISITING** the Honduras office in Tegucigalpa to learn more about ASJ.

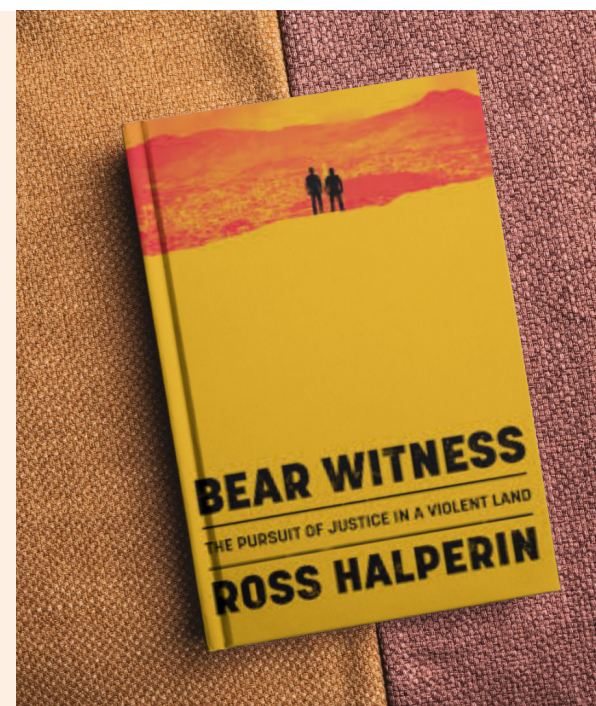
These guests came from the US, Canada, and Denmark. They included churches, university students, high school students, and the board of directors from ASJ-US and ASJ-Canada.



STORYTELLING

Bear Witness, a book written by Ross Halperin about our co-founders Kurt VerBeek, Carlos Hernández, and JoAnn Van Engen, hit bookstores this year.

By sharing the story of our co-founders and the early days of ASJ through this resource, we have been able to reach new audiences and expand our community of brave justice seekers. ASJ did not write or commission Ross to write this book, but we are grateful for the opportunity it offers us to lean into our mission to not only do justice in Honduras, but also inspire others around the world to seek justice in whatever context they are rooted in. The book was reviewed in the New York Times and the Washington Post, and several podcast interviews will be coming out in late 2025.



US ADVOCACY

In June 2025, we visited Washington D.C. with Honduran partners to advocate for support for transparent elections in Honduras's upcoming presidential election in November 2025. We held seven policy meetings with staff from the State Department, the U.S. Senate, and the U.S. House of Representatives. We also secured three meetings with civil society groups in DC to discuss opportunities for support and collaboration.

We have a team of **30 VOLUNTEERS** to serve as **INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS**.

The methodology we are hoping to apply in the electoral observation has a long track record. It has been applied in more than 170 electoral processes since 1988, generating fast, accurate, and verifiable information for citizens and institutional stakeholders. In Honduras, its application by the Network for the Defense of Democracy, an alliance of churches, universities, business sector, and other NGOs, will make it possible to offer early and transparent estimates of results, activate alerts in case there are irregularities, and communicate findings clearly, thereby strengthening public confidence in the electoral process.



This year, ASJ-US team began the work of developing a comprehensive ASJ-US advocacy theory of change to help formalize our advocacy strategy going forward. In all we do, we want to ensure that our advocacy efforts are always in service to our mission: to do justice in Honduras and to inspire others around the world to seek justice in their own contexts.

DEI COMMITMENT

ASJ is committed to **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION**, and we work hard to infuse these values into all areas of our work.

Two key areas our equity team worked on this year include offering 2 brown bag events to our Honduras and US staff to raise awareness for epilepsy and independent living for people with disabilities, and spending time as a team defining our work culture through the lens of our own individual cultural strengths and complexities.





OUR COMMUNITY

For the past 25 years, we have seen God’s faithfulness through the consistent support of our dedicated community. We could not, and would not want to, do this work alone. Here are a few highlights of the ways we have been blessed by you all this past year:

DONORS

1,071 of you DONATED to sustain our work for justice in Honduras, and 246 of you MADE YOUR FIRST GIFT to ASJ this year.

325 of you are JUSTICE PARTNERS—monthly donors who provide stable financial support for our work

This number grew by 20% this year! Shout out to all of the new Justice Partners and to those who increased their pledge in 2025! Thanks to a generous matching offer from a donor, all of these new pledges were matched for the first year.

Last year 83 of you gave through your IRA, WILL, OR ESTATE.

Many ASJ supporters increase their generosity’s impact and tax efficiency by giving from their individual retirement accounts or leaving a legacy gift.

PRAYER PARTNERS

1,365 of you receive our updates to LIFT US UP IN PRAYER.

Whenever we are facing challenges we know are difficult to overcome, we do not hesitate to reach out to our prayer partners. We know that our work is not possible without God’s help, and we are thankful to have so many of you willing to walk with us in faith declaring confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not yet see.

ASJ has several CHURCH PARTNERS who RECEIVE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUESTS from our teams. .

These congregations have a closer relationship with our staff by choosing to pray for specific ASJ teams each month. Our staff fill out both personal and work-related prayer requests and, at the end of each month, the church partners send a response letter to encourage the team.

VOLUNTEERS

We are thankful for the dozens of volunteers in the US who show up to support in so many ways during the year. Some of you came to our events to help with registration, set-up, clean-up, and ensuring each activity ran smoothly. Others of you kindly offered your time and skills to help us move into our new office in Grand Rapids. **We greatly appreciate you walking alongside us!**

We are also thankful for the thousands of active volunteers in Honduras who join forces with our staff to build a more just society. Our volunteers in Honduras make it possible for our team to acquire survey data for the schooldays and school lunches counter. They audit their local public hospitals and health centers. They bring violence prevention training to their communities, schools and families. They made it possible for us to monitor the primary elections, and have already signed up to monitor the presidential elections as well. Wherever there is justice work being done, you can bet our volunteers are the first to show up.

Volunteer Highlight:

Thanks to our volunteers with a passion for the environment and a partnership with Neland Ave Church, our volunteers organized the waste from our 25 Anniversary Celebration events into organicycle. Our lunch event had only 1/2 bag of trash, and the dinner had 2.5 bags of trash. The rest was recycled and organicycled!



OUR NEW OFFICE

Our **GRAND RAPIDS TEAM** moved to a **NEW OFFICE!**

We moved to the Burton Heights neighborhood, a place that aligns with our mission and values and brings us closer to the Latino community. Our community engagement committee is working on listening to the community, building relationships, and advocating for issues that most affect this community. We were blessed with dozens of volunteers helping to build, clean, and move into our new space. **If you live near West Michigan, stop by!**
2037 Division Ave SE Grand Rapids MI 49507

ASJ-US TEAM

Brian Clark- Director of Development- **New Staff Member!**

Omar Hernandez- Finance and Operations Coordinator

Elizabeth Hickel- Events Coordinator

Kyle Meyaard-Schaap- Executive Director

Angela Montes- Eventos Colibrí Manager

Sara Pineda- Communications Coordinator

Jo Ann Van Engen- Communications Support and Donor Liaison

Kurt Ver Beek - Co-founder and Strategic Development Officer

Alison Wabeke- Deputy Executive Director

Sarai Yanes- Office Manager and Administrative Assistant- **New Staff Member!**

ASJ-US BOARD

Russ Jacobs- Board President

Mark Veenstra- Vice President

Kim Lodewyk- Secretary

Chelsea Lernihan- Treasurer

Miriam Andrade Cuevas- **New Board Member!**

Erica Boonstra

Paul DeBoer

Stephen DeHaan

Luis Flores

Laura Hofman-Watrous- **New Board Member!**

Scott Johnson

James Nealon

Maureen O'Keefe Hodge

Michael Pineda- **New Board Member!**

Kelli Schutte

Thomas Turner- **New Board Member!**

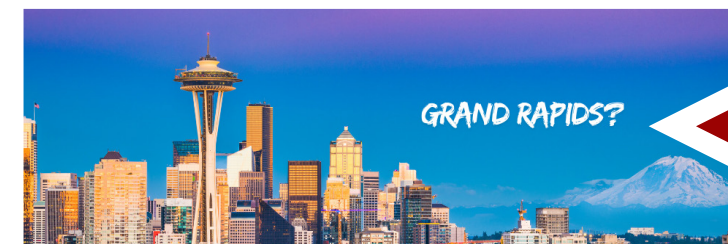
ASJ-HONDURAS TEAM



OUR OOPSIES REPORT

We are only human, and we make mistakes. Here are some of our most hilarious mishaps this year:

We kept misspelling our Director of Development's name for his first three months on the team.... **BRAIN** Clark



We emailed an invitation to ASJ supporters to attend an event in Grand Rapids; unfortunately, all the recipients of the invitation lived in Seattle. Too far?

We bought 3,000 sheets of paper, but it was 3 hole punched. Don't worry, we are trading it away with our local community. Interested? We have marked it down 70%.



We used "Enjoy great brews!" language for a church event, but we were absolutely not planning to serve any alcohol. Maybe Jesus could turn our wine into water?

Our ASJ-HN soccer team lost their first game 17-0... technically not an oopsie, but still deeply embarrassing.





OUR FUTURE TOGETHER

ASJ-US has set ambitious three and five year fundraising goals that will allow ASJ-Honduras to deepen their current work and grow into new and needed areas:

INCREASING OUR GRANT TO ASJ-HN

The money that ASJ-US grants to ASJ-Honduras makes up about a third of their total budget. Yet unlike ASJ-Honduras’ other funders, our funding is intentionally flexible. This means that our funding is essential in filling the gaps that other granting organizations often do not cover: security for staff, gas for vehicles, project innovation, and more. ASJ-US funding is critical in ensuring that all of ASJ-Honduras’ programs can be carried out as effectively as possible.

In the **NEXT 5 YEARS** we want to **DOUBLE OUR GRANT TO ASJ-HONDURAS**.

We are currently in year 2 out of five, and here is the progress we have made



We will be seeking out **200K OF NEW MONEY** this coming fiscal year to meet this goal.

RAISING UP LEADERS

We are working hard to raise up Honduran ASJ leaders through leadership training, succession planning, and strategic planning. This includes a multi-year leadership training program that will both raise leaders within ASJ and also outside of ASJ - strengthening Honduran leadership for the future of the country.

NETWORK BUILDING

Our work is strongest when it is done in community. We will continue to work to build up alliances and networks of key players from different sectors under a common goal of securing justice for those living in poor and vulnerable circumstances.

JOIN OUR MOVEMENT FOR JUSTICE

If you haven’t already, these are the ways you can join our movement for justice in Honduras.

PRAY

Join our prayer network.
asj-us.org/get-involved/pray

Pray monthly with your church
(Email Kyle@asj-us.org if interested)

ADVOCATE



Receive opportunities to advocate for Hondurans in the US.
asj-us.org/advocacy

DONATE

One-time Donation:

Choose the moment and amount that feels right for you.

Monthly Donation:

The most vulnerable in Honduras can rely on our Justice Partners’ generosity month after month.

Planned Giving:

There are several creative giving options that may increase your impact and help your loved ones too. Some options include IRA, will, or estate gifts.

Visit asj-us.org/donate for more information on the ways you can support our work.



OUR FINANCES

ASJ-US is committed to responsible stewardship of its funds. ASJ-US and our partners undergo external audits each year to ensure quality, accuracy, and ethics of our financial management.

Because of our commitment to transparency, ASJ-US has earned the GuideStar Exchange Platinum Seal, as well as the Excellence in Giving’s Commitment to Transparency Seal. ASJ-US is also an accredited agency with the Better Business Bureau, and we have received a score of 100 in Charity Navigator’s Encompass Rating System.

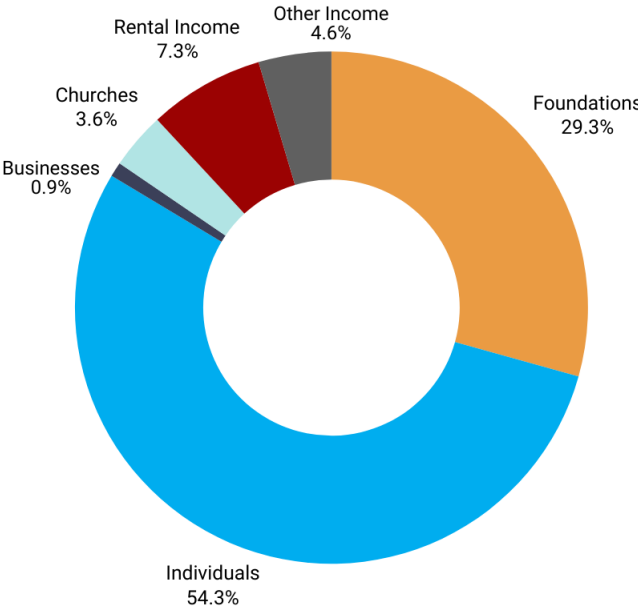
Following is a breakdown of our finances for the fiscal year 2025, which spans from August 2024 through July 2025.

Audited statements for these numbers will be available by December 2025 through our website

INCOME:

ASJ-US Income FY’25	
Foundations	\$876,636.59
Individuals	\$1,622,871.84
Businesses	\$27,470.09
Churches	\$107,345.18
Total contributions and grants:	\$2,634,323.70
Rental Income:	\$218,004.00
Other Income: <small>(Includes: Eventos Colibri and Interest income)</small>	\$137,167.71
FY25 Total Revenue	\$2,989,495.41

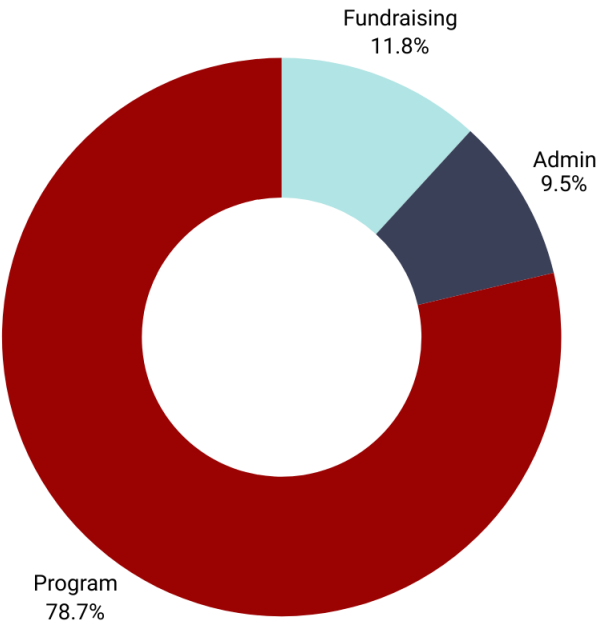
FY’25 Income Breakdown by Percentage



EXPENSES

ASJ-US Expenses FY’25	
Program	\$2,096,160.09
Fundraising	\$313,986.38
Administrative	\$253,318.83
FY25 Total Expenses	\$2,663,465.30

FY’25 Expense Breakdown by Percentage





ASSOCIATION FOR A MORE JUST SOCIETY - U.S. (ASJ-US)
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